

# Record

SPECIAL EDITION

JOURNAL OF THE MISSISSIPPI BAPTIST CONVENTION

## Judge grateful for becoming an orphan

By Tony Martin  
Associate Editor

W. O. "Chet" Dillard is a product of the Great Depression. He is also a product of the ministry of the Baptist Children's Village.

His story smacks of Horatio Alger. "I was born in 1930 in Mantee, Mississippi," said Dillard, "and the Depression was just hitting the rural parts real severely. I was the youngest of ten children. My father was uneducated and unemployed. My mother had some education. In 1934, the oldest child had died, and my mother came down with malaria. She was disabled, and her teeth were all abscessed.

"I had an uncle who had been fortunate enough to graduate from Mississippi State University who came to check on us, and he told me that everybody in the house was sick. I had pneumonia and the mumps at the same time. There wasn't a morsel of food to eat or a drop of anything to drink in the house," Dillard said.

The uncle and some other relatives petitioned the chancery court of Webster County to commit the three youngest children, all under 12, to the Baptist Orphans' Home in Jackson.

This incident was the catalyst that led Dillard to serve in many notable posts, including District Attorney, Commissioner of Public Safety, Assistant Attorney General, and Chancery Judge in Hinds County.

"Rather than complain about it," said Dillard, "I thank God to this day that He let me become an orphan, because I was starving to death. It was God's way of saving my life, and I am a firm believer in the Scripture, especially John 14:18 where Jesus said, 'I will not leave you orphaned. I will come to you'.

"I believe I was orphaned for a purpose. From that beginning, I can take you through every step of my life and show you how that conditioned me. I think being an orphan is a great asset, because you learn to get along without any help from parents or, really, anyone, for that period of time. God put people on earth to help you, and I was helped (at the Orphans' Home)."

Dillard recalled that one of his most vivid memories of what is now the Baptist Children's Village was getting a cold drink of water. "We had no well, no pump, or anything, so it was a big deal to get a cold drink of water," he said.

He also recalled being given cod liver oil and having to stand in the sun because he was malnourished.

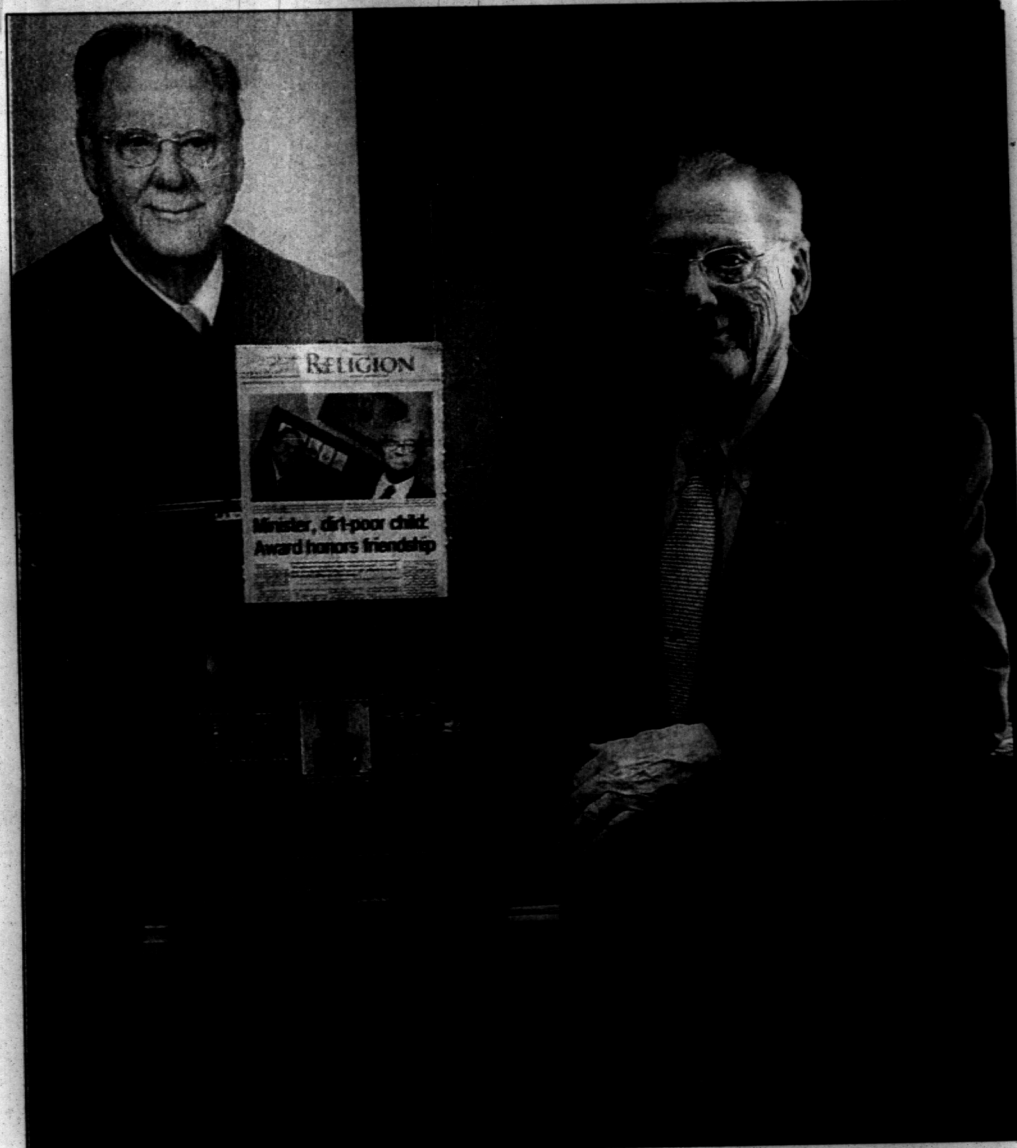
"To go from that beginning to the point to where I wrote an opinion for the court on prayer in schools, which was editorialized by the Wall Street Journal, now that ain't bad," he said.

Dillard had many struggles through the Depression, living and working as a sharecropper. The WPA had come into being, and Dillard's father got a job gathering burnt motor oil and pouring it in ditches to kill mosquitoes.

Dillard struggled through high school, and a Methodist minister, N. A. Dixon, invited Dillard to come to Hattiesburg. The minister was leading the Wesley Foundation at the University of Southern Mississippi (USM) and was going to start a church. That church today is the Parkway Heights Methodist Church.

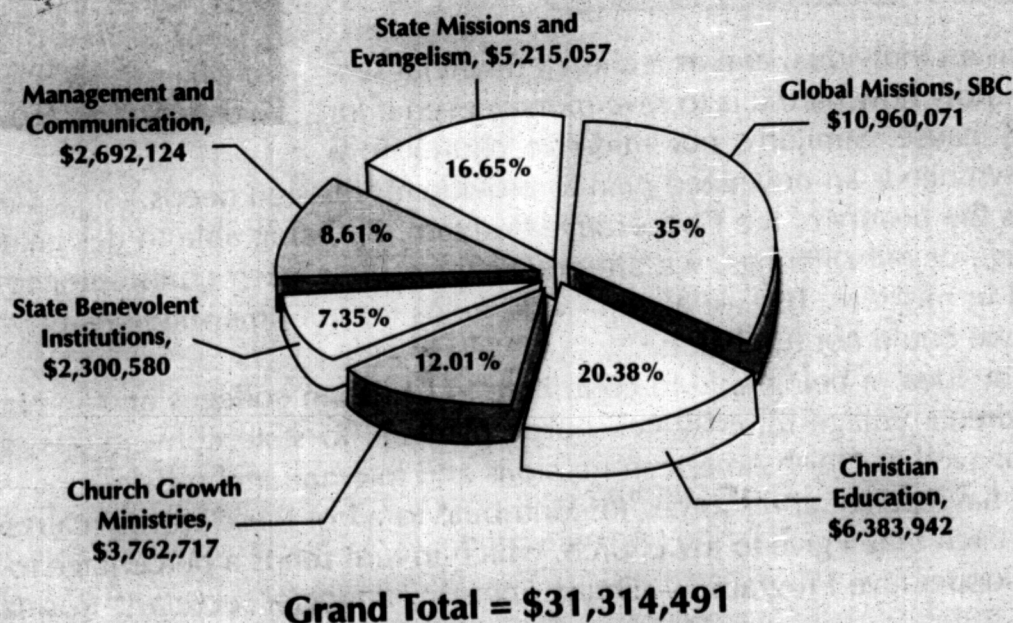
Dillard graduated from USM. "I was the first janitor at Parkway Heights, and I slept on a cot in a Sunday School room," he said.

After graduation, Dillard joined the Navy, became an officer, and became a Navy pilot. After his military time, the G.I.



A LIFE WELL-LIVED — Judge Chet Dillard is seen with the memorabilia of many years of public and private service. Dillard lived at what was then the Baptist Orphans Home in the early 1930s. (BR photo by Tony Martin)

### 2005 Mississippi Baptist Cooperative Program Mission Budget



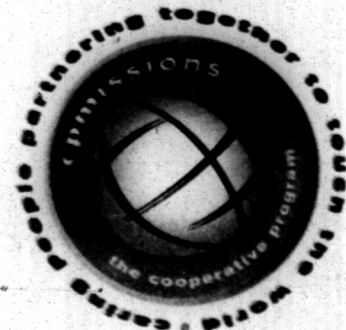
Bill allowed him to go to the University of Mississippi Law School. Dillard graduated from law school and moved to Laurel to practice law. Soon afterward he was elected district attorney.

"I've had a real successful life," said Dillard, "and a pretty good retirement. One thing I want to do for the Baptist Children's Village, and I've got the charter, is to start the Orphans' Honor Society, the OHS. Orphans wonder a lot of times who really cares. This will give them a place to belong, like a fraternity. It's an honor to be an orphan. I don't know why Jesus singled them out, but He did.

"Being an orphan might be God's way of strengthening you and helping you get by without a lot of help. I never had any help before the military but for good Christian people. You can do all things through Him who strengthens you. Didn't mean that my parents didn't love me, but it just means that I was born in that situation for some reason."

Thanks to Mississippi Baptists, the Baptist Children's Village was there when the Dillard brothers needed care. Financial support for the Village comes from the Cooperative Program, individual gifts, an endowment, and church congregations.

SPECIAL  
COOPERATIVE PROGRAM  
EDITION



APRIL 14, 2005



# 2004 COOPERATIVE PROGRAM

Church Offering Categories based on church offerings as  
Cooperative Program Gifts are actual receipts posted by the Mississippi

## CHURCH OFFERING CATEGORY: \$25,000 & BELOW

| ASSOCIATION/CHURCH             | CP GIFTS   |
|--------------------------------|------------|
| CARROLL/SILOH                  | \$3,885.00 |
| HOLMES/MT PLEASANT             | \$3,623.51 |
| LEAKE/NEW ZION                 | \$2,543.50 |
| CARROLL/CALVARY                | \$2,440.51 |
| GULF COAST/RIVERSIDE           | \$2,381.00 |
| NOXUBEE/MASHULAVILLE           | \$2,109.43 |
| YAZOO/ROCKY SPRINGS            | \$1,950.77 |
| NORTH CENTRAL/TEMPLE           | \$1,819.75 |
| AT LARGE/IGLESIA INTERNACIONAL | \$1,815.06 |
| COV-JEFF DAVIS/ANTIOCH         | \$1,784.81 |

## CHURCH OFFERING CATEGORY: \$25,000 - \$39,999

| ASSOCIATION/CHURCH     | CP GIFTS    |
|------------------------|-------------|
| SIMPSON/SILOAM         | \$10,826.68 |
| MISSISSIPPI/BERWICK    | \$7,260.00  |
| CLARKE/BUCATUNNA       | \$6,002.26  |
| WINSTON/ENON           | \$4,982.31  |
| COV-JEFF DAVIS/CALHOUN | \$4,761.60  |
| NEWTON/ROCK BRANCH     | \$4,420.00  |
| MONROE/SPLUNGE         | \$3,822.66  |
| HOLMES/WEST            | \$3,766.47  |
| WEBSTER/PILGRIMS REST  | \$3,708.00  |
| MID-DELTA/MERIGOLD     | \$3,589.08  |

## CHURCH OFFERING CATEGORY: \$40,000 - \$54,999

| ASSOCIATION/CHURCH           | CP GIFTS    |
|------------------------------|-------------|
| PIKE/CALVARY                 | \$14,235.04 |
| LAUDERDALE/LIBERTY           | \$7,537.28  |
| YAZOO/EDEN                   | \$6,207.63  |
| CALHOUN/OLDTOWN              | \$6,061.44  |
| KEMPER/CENTER RIDGE          | \$6,000.00  |
| MID-DELTA/LINN               | \$5,970.43  |
| CALHOUN/CONCORD              | \$5,790.17  |
| NORTHWEST/EBENEZER SENATOBIA | \$5,738.42  |
| NORTH CENTRAL/FBC TUTWILER   | \$5,737.97  |
| SHARKEY-ISSAQ/DEER CREEK     | \$5,732.88  |

## CHURCH OFFERING CATEGORY: \$55,000 - \$74,999

| ASSOCIATION/CHURCH     | CP GIFTS    |
|------------------------|-------------|
| CALHOUN/SABOUGLA       | \$10,588.00 |
| YAZOO/OAK GROVE        | \$8,985.81  |
| MARION/CALVARY         | \$8,719.67  |
| PONTOTOC/GREEN VALLEY  | \$7,753.93  |
| LINCOLN/BETHEL         | \$7,329.38  |
| WEBSTER/LOLLARS GROVE  | \$7,323.02  |
| MID-DELTA/BENOIT       | \$7,314.83  |
| WEBSTER/CUMBERLAND     | \$7,313.80  |
| UNION CO/MYRTLE        | \$7,195.97  |
| MISSISSIPPI/ENTERPRISE | \$7,111.62  |

## CHURCH OFFERING CATEGORY: \$75,000 - \$99,999

| ASSOCIATION/CHURCH             | CP GIFTS    |
|--------------------------------|-------------|
| CALHOUN/BIG CREEK              | \$22,229.59 |
| WINSTON/CALVARY                | \$14,248.87 |
| CALHOUN/PLEASANT HILL          | \$12,332.48 |
| RANKIN/ROCK HILL               | \$12,306.74 |
| PIKE/SILVER SPRINGS            | \$12,038.57 |
| ATTALA/MCCOOL                  | \$11,562.21 |
| CLARKE/SHUBUTA                 | \$11,256.77 |
| LAFAYETTE/COLLEGE HILL HEIGHTS | \$11,023.72 |
| LAUDERDALE/CAUSEYVILLE         | \$10,810.20 |
| PONTOTOC/CHERRY CREEK          | \$10,712.74 |

## THE MISSIONARY



Gray

As International Mission Board missionaries, our base support comes through the Cooperative Program. These funds supply salary, insurance, transportation, retirement, and a variety of other base-support areas. Because we have this support, we can focus on ministry and not on fund raising. Also, because of the Cooperative Program every penny of the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering is spent on ministry, every penny of World Hunger Relief funds goes to meeting needs, and every penny of tsunami disaster relief funds go to helping the hopeless.

This year more people around the world will be reached with the Gospel, more converts will enter the waters of baptism, more churches will be started, more human needs will be met, more training will take place, and more of the love of Christ will be seen, heard, and experienced — all because Southern Baptists cooperate in the cause of Christ.

The Cooperative Program may be 80 years old, but it's still going strong. Let's keep it that way! — Tony and Karen Gray, *IMB missionaries*

## THE EDUCATOR



Royce

The Cooperative Program is in trouble. Ten years ago churches gave 11% of their undesignated budgets to the Cooperative Program and now give only 9%. We simply must do a better job of telling the story.

At Mississippi College we receive \$2,600,000 a year, an amount equal to a \$1,100 yearly scholarship for each of our undergraduate students. The majority of our students could not attend Mississippi College without assistance. Our students need the opportunity to attend a university known for its academic excellence and commitment to the cause of Christ, and Cooperative Program gifts make that attendance possible.

In addition to the good Cooperative Program dollars do, the Cooperative Program binds us together in great kingdom work. It demonstrates that we can cooperate and achieve so much more collectively than we can on our own.

Thank you, Mississippi Baptists, for the Cooperative Program. — Lee Royce, *president, Mississippi College, Clinton*

## THE CHURCH STAFFER



Frierson

Both as an individual and as a church financial secretary, I know how hard it is to save money, even if for a worthy cause. Similarly, our mid-size church in a small town needs an organized plan to provide for mission needs.

That is the beauty of the Cooperative Program. By being able to designate a percentage of our offerings, we are not only enabling each contributor to be involved in missions, but we also provide funds for full-time missions personnel that we could not fund alone.

I like the idea of being able to contribute to Christian colleges and seminaries, to the Baptist Children's Village ministry, to church planters, to state conventions, and many other ministries, as well as North American missions and international missions.

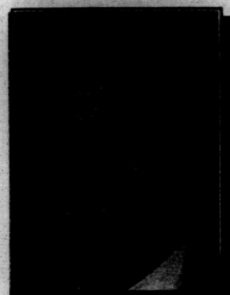
Even though I do not have personal resources to contribute to all of these worthy causes, I know I am contributing each time I give to my church, which in turn sends a percentage to all this work through the Cooperative Program. — Diana Frierson, *financial secretary, Roseland Park Church, Picayune*



# PROGRAM CENTURY CLUB

as reported on the 2003-2004 Annual Church Profile.  
Mississippi Baptist Convention Board from October 2003 - September 2004.

## THE PASTOR



Cappleman

Brandi Bean came to Mississippi State University to get an education. God drew her to our church so He could save her. Today, she is married and working on a master's degree at Southwestern Seminary in Ft. Worth. Once she and her husband complete their work, they hope to serve as international missionaries. Our church's giving through the Cooperative Program helps Brandi offset the expense of a seminary education so she can share the Gospel with the world.

Clark and Valerie Rumfelt are planting a new church in Westerly, Rhode Island. Our church joined with First Church, Amory, last summer to send a mission team to assist them. On Easter Sunday, the Rumfelts officially launched the new church plant. Our giving through the Cooperative Program helps new works like The Church at Westerly reach America for Christ.

We have seen the impact giving through the Cooperative Program can make. I encourage you to give and to celebrate the impact your local church can make in God's kingdom work. — Scott Cappleman, pastor, Adaton Church, Starkville

## THE BUSINESSMAN



Pyron

I learned many years ago that the Kingdom business of Jesus Christ is unlike any secular enterprise, because Kingdom business must be done by faith and not just sight. I have seen one financial miracle after another unfold as Christians stepped out on faith. However, I do believe Kingdom business should be conducted on sound business principles.

The Cooperative Program allows economies of scale not available to each of us alone. Businesses pool resources for better insurance rates, buy in bulk for savings, and seek to eliminate costly duplication in administration. Successful businesses also depend on a common goal or mission to create a smoothly-functioning team focused on the organization, and to resolve disagreements and strife. The Cooperative Program accomplishes those principles.

The Lord's business is like other businesses in another way: the dedication and devotion of the people involved make the critical difference in success or failure. If the Cooperative Program fails to prosper, the problem will be with us and not the program. — Billy Pyron, owner, Pyron Furniture Company, Natchez

## THE MISSIONARY ADMINISTRATOR



Rankin

Jesus told us to go into all the world and make disciples of all nations. It is a mandate to His followers. As the people of God no one is exempt. The Cooperative Program is a divinely-anointed system through which Southern Baptists can all be a part of reaching a lost world.

Through the Cooperative Program I can support over 10,000 missionaries sent out by our churches to impact North America and the world with the Gospel. My gifts to the Cooperative Program enabled over a thousand new missionaries to be appointed with NAMB and the IMB last year, none of whom had to delay going to the field because of the necessity of raising support.

Southern Baptists enabled missionaries serving with the IMB to start 21,000 new churches, baptize 607,000 new believers, and initiate work among 143 new people groups in 184 countries around the world. The Cooperative Program is a channel for me to touch the world. —Jerry Rankin, president, International Mission Board

### CHURCH OFFERING CATEGORY: \$100,000 - \$149,999

| ASSOCIATION/CHURCH   | CP GIFTS    |
|----------------------|-------------|
| MID-DELTA/SKENE      | \$31,030.78 |
| JONES/SANDERSVILLE   | \$29,812.23 |
| YALOBUSHA/BETHEL     | \$20,067.00 |
| YAZOO/CONCORD        | \$19,480.51 |
| WALTHAM/LEXIE        | \$18,929.89 |
| ADAMS/CLIFF TEMPLE   | \$18,127.45 |
| LINCOLN/MT MORIAH    | \$17,840.65 |
| NORTHWEST/ARKABUTLA  | \$17,385.50 |
| NORTH CENTRAL/HEBRON | \$16,866.07 |
| GREENE/FBC SAND HILL | \$16,667.98 |

### CHURCH OFFERING CATEGORY: \$150,000 - \$249,999

| ASSOCIATION/CHURCH   | CP GIFTS    |
|----------------------|-------------|
| CARROLL/CARROLLTON   | \$55,669.79 |
| PEARL RIVER/UNION    | \$49,248.95 |
| RANKIN/CATO          | \$39,665.76 |
| PONTOTOC/ECRU        | \$38,459.38 |
| PIKE/TERRY'S CREEK   | \$36,480.39 |
| LINCOLN/NEW PROSPECT | \$36,269.59 |
| SCOTT/SPRINGFIELD    | \$34,984.28 |
| FRANKLIN/MEADVILLE   | \$32,361.07 |
| LAWRENCE/SHILOH      | \$30,314.00 |
| LINCOLN/CALVARY      | \$29,185.07 |

### CHURCH OFFERING CATEGORY: \$250,000 - \$499,999

| ASSOCIATION/CHURCH            | CP GIFTS    |
|-------------------------------|-------------|
| MARION/NORTH COLUMBIA         | \$79,012.35 |
| PERRY/FBC RICHTON             | \$75,156.00 |
| GOLDEN TRIANGLE/PLEASANT HILL | \$66,199.33 |
| LEBANON/MACEDONIA             | \$62,785.12 |
| NEWTON/HICKORY                | \$60,253.63 |
| PIKE/CENTRAL                  | \$58,513.91 |
| NORTHWEST/FBC COLDWATER       | \$54,432.47 |
| COV-JEFF DAVIS/PRENTISS       | \$53,736.68 |
| COV-JEFF DAVIS/FBC COLLINS    | \$52,831.71 |
| JACKSON/ESCATAWPA             | \$48,576.06 |

### CHURCH OFFERING CATEGORY: \$500,000 - \$999,999

| ASSOCIATION/CHURCH          | CP GIFTS     |
|-----------------------------|--------------|
| MONTGOMERY/FBC WINONA       | \$175,345.48 |
| CHICKASAW/FBC HOUSTON       | \$118,320.67 |
| LAMAR/FBC PURVIS            | \$116,281.63 |
| MID-DELTA/FBC CLEVELAND     | \$115,500.04 |
| LAUDERDALE/FBC COLLINSVILLE | \$113,881.95 |
| SIMPSON/FBC MAGEE           | \$105,182.37 |
| UNION CO/FBC NEW ALBANY     | \$104,077.17 |
| LEE/FBC BALDWIN             | \$102,176.40 |
| NORTH DELTA/OAKHURST        | \$100,049.50 |
| NEWTON/FBC NEWTON           | \$99,477.97  |

### CHURCH OFFERING CATEGORY: \$1,000,000 & ABOVE

| ASSOCIATION/CHURCH           | CP GIFTS     |
|------------------------------|--------------|
| METRO/FBC JACKSON            | \$745,569.63 |
| METRO/COLONIAL HEIGHTS       | \$393,820.46 |
| LEE/CALVARY                  | \$380,233.89 |
| LEE/HARRISBURG               | \$343,448.25 |
| METRO/MORRISON HEIGHTS       | \$312,794.62 |
| GOLDEN TRIANGLE/FBC COLUMBUS | \$285,180.88 |
| METRO/BROADMOOR              | \$279,520.08 |
| METRO/FBC CLINTON            | \$275,945.11 |
| METRO/FBC MADISON            | \$268,529.55 |
| GOLDEN TRIANGLE/FAIRVIEW     | \$263,315.86 |



# 2005 MISSISSIPPI BAPTIST COOPERATIVE PROGRAM BUDGET

## MISSIONS ALLOCATIONS

### GLOBAL MISSIONS/SBC

|        |                              |             |
|--------|------------------------------|-------------|
| 17.50% | International Mission Board  | \$5,480,036 |
| 7.98%  | North American Mission Board | \$2,498,896 |
| 7.57%  | Six Seminaries               | \$2,370,507 |
| 1.16%  | SBC Operations               | \$363,248   |
| 0.79%  | Other Agencies               | \$247,384   |

**35.00% SUBTOTAL \$10,960,071**

### CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

|       |                                |             |
|-------|--------------------------------|-------------|
| 8.49% | Mississippi College            | \$2,659,837 |
| 7.35% | William Carey                  | \$2,300,501 |
| 3.16% | Blue Mountain                  | \$989,887   |
| 1.21% | Board of Ministerial Education | \$380,444   |
| 0.17% | Education Commission           | \$53,273    |

**20.38% SUBTOTAL \$6,383,942**

### STATE MISSIONS AND EVANGELISM

|       |                          |             |
|-------|--------------------------|-------------|
| 5.56% | Collegiate Ministry      | \$1,741,357 |
| 2.88% | Woman's Missionary Union | \$901,117   |
| 1.31% | Church Planting          | \$411,122   |
| 1.71% | Mission Strategy         | \$535,020   |
| 1.89% | Men's Ministry           | \$592,530   |
| 1.44% | Missions Mobilization    | \$450,000   |
| 1.16% | Evangelism Promotion     | \$364,225   |
| 0.70% | Stewardship              | \$219,686   |

**16.65% SUBTOTAL \$5,215,057**

### CHURCH GROWTH MINISTRIES

|       |                               |           |
|-------|-------------------------------|-----------|
| 2.25% | Discipleship/Family Ministry  | \$705,719 |
| 1.75% | Capital Needs                 | \$548,679 |
| 1.84% | Sunday School                 | \$575,130 |
| 1.47% | Church Music                  | \$459,793 |
| 1.16% | Gulfshore Baptist Assembly    | \$363,316 |
| 1.12% | Church Growth                 | \$351,684 |
| 0.93% | Pastor/Leadership Development | \$291,835 |
| 0.89% | Church Minister Relations     | \$277,980 |
| 0.60% | Church/Community Impact       | \$188,581 |

**12.01% SUBTOTAL \$3,762,717**

### STATE BENEVOLENT INSTITUTIONS

|       |                             |           |
|-------|-----------------------------|-----------|
| 3.02% | Church Annuity              | \$945,684 |
| 1.75% | Baptist Children's Village  | \$549,218 |
| 1.33% | MS Baptist Foundation       | \$416,311 |
| 1.05% | Christian Action Commission | \$328,259 |
| 0.20% | Historical Commission       | \$61,108  |

**7.35% SUBTOTAL \$2,300,580**

### MANAGEMENT & COMMUNICATION

|       |                                 |           |
|-------|---------------------------------|-----------|
| 2.40% | Resource Services               | \$748,132 |
| 2.22% | The Baptist Record              | \$694,983 |
| 1.50% | Communication Services          | \$468,684 |
| 1.34% | Executive Administration        | \$420,789 |
| 0.83% | Computer Information Services   | \$259,986 |
| 0.32% | Convention Session & Committees | \$99,550  |

**8.61% SUBTOTAL \$2,692,124**

**GRAND TOTAL: \$31,314,491**

# All-State choir lays foundation

By Tony Martin  
Associate Editor

When Joshua Smith first joined the Mississippi Baptist All-State Youth Choir and Orchestra, he had no idea that four years later he would still be part of the group. Nor did he know that his experiences with this group would be instrumental in his becoming minister of music at Sylvarena Church, Sylvarena.

Smith was born in Baton Rouge in 1981 and moved to the Sardis community in the northern part of Smith County in 1986, becoming active in Sardis Church.

"It was there that I first got started in music ministry," said Smith. "It was there that I learned to read music, and it was there that I met Tina (his fiancé). I started as an assistant music director with my uncle, who was minister of music there. He knew he could always call on me if he needed to tend to his chickens."

When Smith was in the eighth grade, his uncle got a letter from Jimmy McCaleb, contract consultant with the Church Music department of the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board (MBCB). "It told about the Baptist All-State Youth Choir and Orchestra. I tried out in November of 1996, and in January of 1997 I received a letter from Susan Clark telling me that I had been accepted." Smith auditioned on both voice and trumpet, and both sang and played his horn.

"The first time I auditioned I was nervous," said Smith, "but after that first year everything was easy going."

The choir and orchestra usually have a combined number of 100 youth from across the state. Auditions are held in the fall. Students must be active in the music program of the church, and must be in grades nine through 12. They may participate for four years, which is what Smith did.

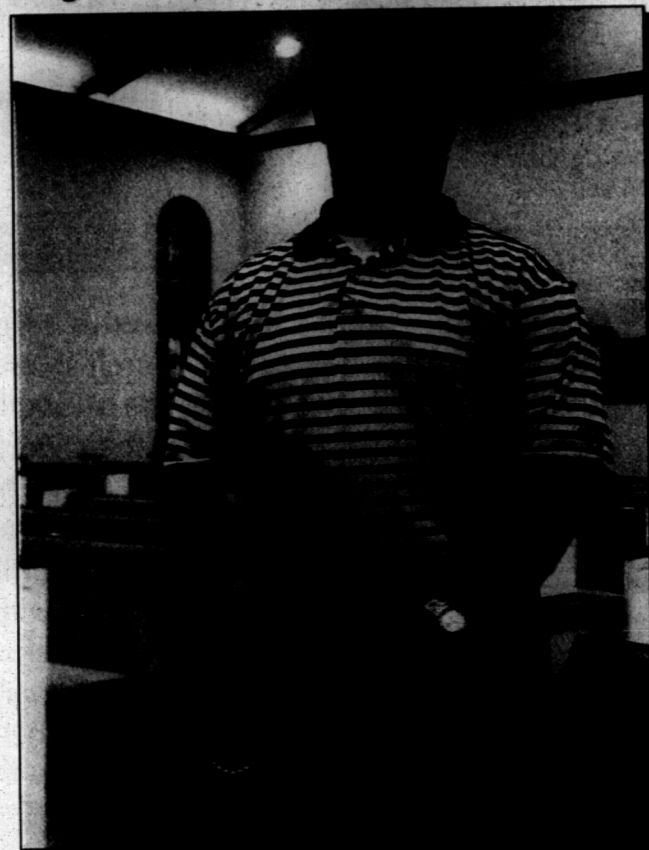
"In 2002, I got back from the choir tour as an alumni counselor," said Smith. "My dad and I are both Gideons and are active in the Smith County camp. One night at a meeting, some of the members of this church who were also Gideons told my dad that Sylvarena was looking for a music director. My dad got home and told me, and at first my instinct was, 'I'm not sure if I'm ready for this.' Tina and I talked about it. I was 20 at the time, about to turn 21, and getting ready to start working for the Gray-Daniels auto family."

"I knew the amount of hours I had to put in at work, but prayer and just listening to what the Lord said let me to meet with the pastor and search committee."

"They asked me to come for a trial service in October, 2002. I was nervous, but we had a great service. A couple of Sundays later, they asked me to come back — and they haven't asked me to quit coming yet."

Smith owes a lot of his experience to the All-State Youth Choir and for his work with Susan Clark Luttrell, contract consultant with the MBCB Church Music Department.

Said Smith, "I'm thankful for all the other counselors who helped me along the way. There are two-and-a-half very intense days of rehearsal that go into getting ready for the tour, and if you aren't dedicated and focused, it's easily seen and noticed by others. It helps you under-



**ANSWERING THE CALL** — Joshua Smith (standing) and his fiancé Tina Johnson survey the sanctuary of Sylvarena Church, Sylvarena, when Smith is minister of music. Smith credits the Mississippi Baptist Youth Choir and Orchestra for helping him acknowledge his call into music ministry. (BR photo by Tony Martin)

stand where you are at that stage in your life. It helped me understand that I had some potential in music ministry. After that first year, another two or three people from Raleigh High School were in the choir with me. It's become a pretty well known event in Smith County."

The Mississippi Baptist All-State Youth Choir and Orchestra tours each year, and is supported by gifts to the Mississippi Cooperative Program.

**together we can** climb a mountain, achieve a goal, reach the world.

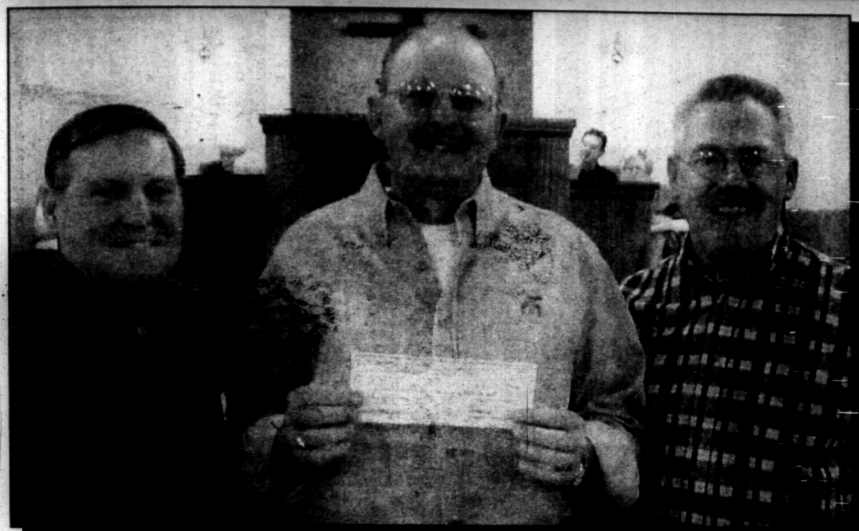
Cooperative Program (CP) Missions helps you team with 16 million other Southern Baptists to reach people everywhere.

**HERE'S HOW IT WORKS:** You give a gift to the Lord through your church. Then part of your gift is forwarded to CP Missions, where it is combined with gifts from other Southern Baptist churches. CP Missions uses the gifts to reach people, train, support, and send missionaries and pastors, and much more. When it comes to reaching people... together is better. (Ecc. 4:9)





## JUST FOR THE RECORD



9. Tsunami Relief Concert, Escatawpa Church, Escatawpa



13. Bible Drillers, Morrison Heights, Clinton

9. **Escatawpa Church, Escatawpa**, held a tsunami relief concert March 5 which raised a love offering of \$2737.34. Musicians participating included Heavenly Hearts, Jacob's Rock, Two to One, Dan Kirkland, and the Escatawpa Ladies Trio. Shown, from left, are Michael Glenn, pastor; John George; and Jim McEachern, minister of music.

10. **First, Cocoa Beach, Fla.**, has at least 80 pews to donate to churches in need. Pews will be given on a first come basis, and individuals may purchase a pew for \$100. For information, call (321) 783-2844 or visit the church website at [www.firstbaptistchurchof-cocoabeach.org](http://www.firstbaptistchurchof-cocoabeach.org).

11. **New Hope Church, Foxworth**, will host the Prime Time Singers, Kerville, Tex., Apr. 17, 7:30 p.m.

12. **Tate Church, Corinth**, will host a marriage enrichment retreat Apr. 15-16, led by Ronnie and Beverly Cottingham, Lucedale. Cost is \$40/couple. Paid in Full will be in concert Apr. 17, 6:30 p.m. in conjunction with the church's Friend Day. For more information, call (662) 286-2935.

13. **Morrison Heights Church, Clinton**, held their children's Bible drills March 16. Shown are the participants.

14. **Cathy Barnes, Williamsville Church, Kosciusko**, honored her 3rd and 4th grade Sunday School class Mar. 13 for memorizing the books of the Bible. Each student received a Bible with their name embossed on it. Shown are the participants.

15. **Itawamba Association's Spring WMU meeting** was held on March 8. at Calvary Church. Their mission project was Sav-A-Life. Shown are Kaye Graham, IBA WMU director; Grace McMillen, area II district coordinator; Robin Keels,

state GA/Acteen consultant; Clara Rayburn, Calvary WMU director; and Amanda Tedder, Sav-A-Life consultant.

16. **Parks Church, Drew**: 50th anniversary celebration, May 28-29. Sat., 5:00 p.m., outdoor singing, prayer, and testimonies; Sun., 9:45 a.m.-noon, prayer, singing and preaching; dinner on the grounds with singing and testimonies. For more information, contact Les Atkins at (662) 890-9669.

17. **Buck Creek Church, Rich-ton**, honored Gene Walley on his 60th anniversary in the ministry Easter Sunday. He preached his first sermon in Ito, Japan, as a soldier in the U.S. Army. Walley retired in Mar. 2003 and accepted the pastorate at Buck Creek Church in Aug. 2003.

18. **Navilla, McComb**: Centennial Anniversary, Oct. 21-23. Fri., cookout in the park; Sat. evening, worship service and reception; special worship and music Sunday morning, followed by dinner on the grounds. Many former pastors and music staff participating. Contact the church at P. O. Box 11245, McComb, MS, 39649, or e-mail [navilla@netdoor.com](mailto:navilla@netdoor.com).



14. Williamsville Church, Williamsville



15. Spring WMU Meeting, Itawamba Association

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- Charitable Organizations and Child Transportation Businesses are at Risk!

### OBITUARY

**Charles Holifield, Hoover, Ala.**, died Mar. 28 at the age of 85. He pastored Baptist churches in Mississippi from 1948 - 1985, when he retired from Liberty Church, Liberty. After retirement, he pastored Union Church and Hux Church in Wilkinson County. He served in the Coast Guard from 1943 - 1946 and held degrees from Mississippi College and New Orleans Seminary. He is survived by his wife, Janice Holifield, and sister, Lucille Cochran; one daughter, Dale Magers and son-in-law Jerry Magers; and four grandchildren.

## SBC messenger cards available

The SBC Annual Meeting will be held June 21-22, 2005, at the Gaylord Entertainment Center in Nashville. Mississippi Baptist churches planning to send messengers should request messenger cards from the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board, Executive Administration, P.O. Box 530, Jackson, MS 39205-0530. Telephone: (601) 292-3201 or toll-free outside Jackson at (800) 748-1651, ext. 201. Email: [bbox@mbcb.org](mailto:bbox@mbcb.org). Messenger cards are mailed only by church request.

### Bibliocipher

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OVDKRVX, QKDDKG CKH  
HBYH GBUJB UL VRUD,  
OPH HBYH GBUJB UL  
WKKX. BV HBYH XKVHB  
WKKX UL KQ WKX: OPH  
BV HBYH XKVHB VRUD  
BYHB CKH LVVC WKX.

HBUNX ZKBC VDVRVC

Clue: R = V

Have fun with cryptography and exercise your Bible knowledge. A King James Version Bible verse has been encoded by letter substitution. The same letter is substituted throughout the puzzle. Solve by trial and error. Answer to last week's puzzle: Jude Twenty-One.



## STAFF CHANGES

Nathan Mooneyham has been called to First, Vardaman, as minister of music. He is a Mississippi College graduate and comes from Ogden Church, Bentonia.



Davis and Wife

Shannon Davis has been called as pastor to Calvary, Oxford. Shown are Davis and his wife, Dee Dee.

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## COLLEGE NEWS



2. SGA Council, Blue Mountain



4. Travis Scholarship Recipients, Blue Mountain



2. MA Council, Blue Mountain



6. BSU Ministry Council, Blue Mountain

1. William Carey College (WCC) Theater will present an adaptation of Shakespeare's *The Tempest* April 14-16 in the O. L. Quave Theater on the Hattiesburg campus. Seats may be reserved by calling (601) 318-6221, and the box office will be open from 1-4 p.m. Admission is \$10, senior citizens and military personnel tickets are \$8, and student tickets are \$5.

2. Blue Mountain College (BMC) held its annual installation ceremony for Student Government and Ministerial Association Councils. Members of the SGA Council include, front row, from left, Amanda McCombs, Amanda Butler, Leigh Ann Alexander, Ashley Hollingsworth, Heather Robinson, Lydia Turner; back row, Jessie Rogers, Melody Bishop, Ashley Harper, Stephanie Bilbo, Nicole Beaty, and Emily Fitzgerald. Ministerial Association Council members include, front row, from left, Philip Carithers, Jack Napier, Jeff Harrison, and Jason Middleton; back row, Casey Russell, Ranier Jumper, Teddy James, and Ben Lane.

3. Four area colleges — WCC, the University of Southern Mississippi, Jones County Junior College, and Pearl River Community College, will host Free Fun: Picnic on the Campus Apr. 27 on the William Carey intramural field from 3-5 p.m. The event includes live music, free food and games, and booths set up to offer participants information on WCC, tobacco cessation, tobacco facts, and drug and alcohol awareness. For more information, call (601) 318-6444 or (601) 318-6575.

4. The 2005-06 Travis Scholarship recipients were named during the annual meeting of BMC's Ministerial Alumni Association. The program, named in honor of the late James L. Travis, provides scholarships for BMC students preparing for church-related vocations. Shown are Lucille Travis, Luanne Travis Ford, and recipients.

5. The Mississippi College (MC) Foreign Language Department will hold its annual International Coffee



7. SGA Council, MC

House at 6 p.m., Apr. 15, in Aven Hall Auditorium, featuring the sights, sounds, and tastes of Japan. The coffee house will feature music played by Japanese artists and the concert is free.

6. BMC's Baptist Student Union Ministry Council officers for 2005-06 include, from left, Amy Ledbetter, Jennifer Worsham, Jessica Worsham, Brooke Richardson, Jennifer Ingram, Angela Bell, Carol Peters, Amy

Rogers, Sarah Leighty, Stephanie Bilbo, Robert Ekis, Melody Bishop, Brook Hale, and Jocelyn Panter.

7. Mississippi College's SGA Officers for 2005-06 include from left, front row: Megan Kash, Brandon; Jenny Tate, Blue Springs; Megan Trochesset, Biloxi; and Lindsey Smith, Jackson. Back row from left: Wes McGehee, Brandon; Shawn Harris, Picayune; Brandon Hembree, Sumrall; Lee Walker, Hazlehurst; Michael Ward, Clinton.



Mississippi College







# Practical Principles for Christian Living



A MONTHLY PUBLICATION OF THE CHRISTIAN ACTION COMMISSION OF THE MISSISSIPPI BAPTIST CONVENTION • VOLUME 5 • ISSUE 2

## Kids and "Juice"



By Jimmy Porter

Kids and "juice" is one of the fastest growing problems among young "wannabe" athletes in America.

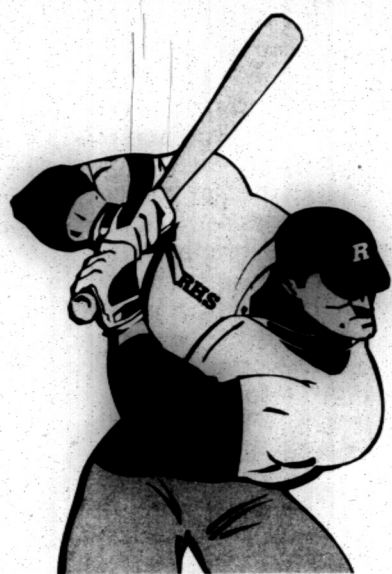
"Juice" is not about apples, oranges or grapes but anabolic steroids used illegally by athletes to enhance their playing skills. In the 1990s major league baseball players were hitting so many homeruns everybody thought the ball had been altered or "juiced" up to go farther. What we have learned recently is that it was the players who were "juiced" and not the baseball.

The homerun record is the most revered statistic in baseball. In 1927 Babe Ruth hit 60 homeruns which stood for 34 years until Roger Maris hit 61 in 1961. Mark McGuire broke

Maris' 37-year-old record in 1998 with 70 dingers. Three years later Barry Bonds walloped 73 homeruns. Consider this: in the 1980s not one time did a player hit 50 or more homeruns in a season, but in the 1990s players hit 50 or more homeruns 17 times. Something drastic happened in the 1990s. Baseballs hurtled into outer space when they left the bats of the major league hitters.

The 30 million kids under age 18 who play organized sports aren't dumb. They discovered the secret to professional athletes' success: steroids. They surmised that to be a winner you must use performance enhancing drugs to gain an advantage, whether legal or not. The risks to their health never enter their thought processes.

Steroids can be taken by pills, injection or applied to the skin as



a cream. Some of the steroids can stunt the height of growing adolescents, masculinize women and alter the sex characteristics of men. Anabolic steroids can lead to premature heart attacks, strokes, liver tumors, kidney failure, and serious psychiatric problems. Teens on steroids may have angry outbursts known as "roid rage" or show signs of paranoia, hallucinations, and psychosis (National Institute of Drug Abuse).

Steve Watterson, strength and rehabilitation coordinator for the NFL's Tennessee Titans, suggests that parents need to monitor

their teenagers to insure they are not taking anabolic steroids. Some things to watch for are: sudden physiological changes in their bodies, pronounced mood swings, disrupted sleep patterns and restlessness, acne, yellowing of the eyes and skin, and the use of words such as "juice," "roids" or "gym candy" (Faith & Family Values, Jan./Feb. 2005).

As a parent there are some things you can do to assist your child in making the right decisions about drugs and steroids. Do not allow undue pressure to be placed on your child to succeed athletically. Assure them of your love and support even if they don't make it to the "Big Leagues." Know school and state policies about performance enhancing drugs and state clearly expectations to your teen about competing fairly and honorably. Discuss with your student athlete the risks and dangers of steroid use. Help them to understand that a balanced diet and good training habits will be sufficient for them to develop as athletes. Also, monitor your teen's purchases. Read the labels and check the ingredients to see if they pose a health risk to your child, even if they are legal and can be purchased over-the-counter.

It is a sad time in sports history as we learn more and more have used and are using steroids to compete unfairly. The man who holds the homerun record now is Barry Bonds who allegedly has used steroids. He is arguably the best hitter in the history of baseball, but now he is blaming the media for trying to bring him down.

Mr. Bonds misses the point. The point is that there are thousands of kids who want to be just like him, and some will turn to steroids to try and make it happen. Mr. Bonds, it is not about you but all the kids who idolize you, and if it's okay for you, then they believe it is okay for them.

The Bible teaches us that our "bodies are the temple of the Holy Spirit" (I Corinthians 6:19), and they should not be destroyed or defiled with steroids or any other performance enhancing drugs. As one mother told her Olympic gymnast daughter, "God does not expect us to be the best but to do our best." Parents, if that is good enough for God, it should be good enough for you. Have fun and play ball!

Porter is executive director-treasurer of the Christian Action Commission. He can be reached at [jporter@christianaction.com](mailto:jporter@christianaction.com).



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## FAMILY BIBLE STUDY

### Controlled Speech

James 3:2b-12; 4:11-12; 5:12

By Rick Henson

Proverbs 15:1 reads, "A soft answer turneth away wrath: but grievous words stir up anger." Our words affect other people and affect ourselves. Proverbs 18:21a reads, "Death and life are in the power of the tongue." Our words reveal our character. If a man is angry, then his words will be filled with hatred and venom. If a woman is peaceful, then her words will be healing and soothing. If deception is in one's heart, then lies will be on his lips.

James compared our tongue to a bridle for a horse and a rudder for a ship. Both steer and determine direction. Our words not only reveal who we are; they lead us where we are going. Paul reminded the Ephesians, "Let no corrupt

communication proceed out of your mouth, but that which is good to the use of edifying, that it may minister grace unto the hearers," (Ephesians 4:29). Our words may minister grace to others or they may be a source of corruption.

In our focal passage James 3:11-12 we are asked if blessings and cursing can come from the same mouth. James used the illustrations of a water well and a tree. Water from a spring is constant and cannot alternate between sweet water and bitter. Neither can a fig tree yield olives. Neither should the mouth of a believer yield praises to God on Sunday and curses on Monday.

Many years ago I preached a



Henson

youth revival. A young man from the church and I went to witness to his friend. When we invited him to the services, he looked at the young man from the church and said, "You're a Christian? With your mouth?" The young man hung his head in shame. During that revival he committed to serving the Lord all the time, not just at church, but he knew that he had damaged his witness with his mouth. Genuine servants of God do not tell dirty jokes at work or use profanity on the golf course.

Another focal passage, James 5:12, teaches us, "But above all things, my brethren, swear not, neither by heaven, neither by the earth, neither by any other oath: but let your yea be yea; and your nay, nay; lest ye fall into condemnation." Jesus said, "Swear not at all; neither by heaven; for it is God's throne: Nor by the earth; for it is his footstool: neither by Jerusalem; for it is the city of the

great King. ... But let your communication be, Yea, yea; nay, nay: for whatsoever is more than these cometh of evil," (Matthew 5:34-37). Once I was playing golf with a pastor from another state. He hit a bad shot and said, "Dadgumit!" I asked if he knew what that word meant. He did not and I told him that word is an anagram for God's name in vain. He apologized and pledged to not use the word again. Jesus said that yes or no is sufficient. Ephesians 5:3-4, "But fornication, and all uncleanness, or covetousness, let it not be once named among you, as becometh saints; neither filthiness, nor foolish talking, nor jesting, which are not convenient: but rather giving of thanks," places foolish talk and jesting with uncleanness and fornication. John MacArthur, in MacArthur's New Testament Commentary: Ephesians, comments on this passage:

"Filthiness has to do with general obscenity, any talk that is degrading and disgraceful. It comes from the same Greek

root as 'disgraceful' in verse 12, where Paul says that such vile things should not even be mentioned, much less participated in, and is related to the term in Colossians 3:8, meaning 'dirty speech.' Morologia (silly talk) used only here in the New Testament, is derived from moros (which means dull, or stupid, and is the word from which we get moron) and lego (to speak). It is stupid talk, talk only befitting someone who is intellectually deficient. It is sometimes referred to as low obscenity, foolish talk that comes from the drunk or the gutter mouth. It has no point except to give an air of dirty worldliness."

When Jesus is Lord of our hearts, He is also Lord of our mouths. Our words either witness of the power of Christ, or tell others that we are not consistent in our walk with the Lord.

Henson is pastor of Oakdale Church, Brandon.

## EXPLORE THE BIBLE

### Lead Others to the Lord

Jeremiah 28: 1-4, 7-11, 15-17

By Billie Buckley

As a teacher of creative writing, I know the first rule of good writing is to give the reader a recognizable point of reference. I tell my writers, "Give your audience someone or something with which to relate. It's not about you. It's about them."

Today in our lesson from Jeremiah 28 you have a choice. You can relate to Jeremiah or to Hananiah. Both had an influence on the people of Judah. One had influence as a true prophet, the other a self-deceived or great pretender prophet. (Scholars differ on this.)

One thing not open for debate is Great Pretenders still surface today. How can we tell? Check out their personality. Are

they arrogant? Do they despise authority, wallow in sinful desire and love money? Do they appeal to our desires for wealth and pleasure and not those desires which honor God's Word? These are warning signs surfacing of another Great Pretender like Hananiah.

Jeremiah we know. So, let me introduce you to the pernickety prophet who tried to contradict Jeremiah's influence as a true prophet of God. Some have said, "Hananiah was a fanatical nationalist who was sincerely wrong." One thing we know for sure, he tried to make God the author of his own disobedience.

Is there a test for a true prophet? Yes. The words of a true prophet come to pass.



Buckley

Jeremiah's true words passed the test while Hananiah's words were mixed up with his own desires. They wrongly influenced people and did not pass the test of time.

Let's look closely at confusing desires with the Truth. (vv. 1b-4)

Here Hananiah challenged Jeremiah with an optimistic message beginning with, "Thus says the Lord."

Isn't this Jeremiah's formula? Here we realize another cause of confusion; both claimed God had given them a message. Jeremiah said they would be in Babylon 70 years. Hananiah changed it to two years predicting God would break the yoke of bondage. Jeremiah responds, "Amen, I wish it were true. I wish you were right." Here another warning is given in our study.

Look closer at saying what others want you to say. (vv. 7-11) Jeremiah spoke about

doom and gloom. In contrast, Hananiah brought the false cards of optimism to the table. The problem was the one who held the optimistic cards was a spiritual phony. He, along with other false prophets, added or subtracted from God's revealed Word.

He added what the people wanted to hear. He subtracted what would not make him look good. In verse 9 they are reminded, "A prophet who predicts peace must carry the burden of proof." In other words, your actions must back up what you say before others will listen to you.

In verse 11 we see Jeremiah doing a smart thing, "At that, Jeremiah went his way." Why did Jeremiah just walk away? Maybe it was because it was not his problem. It was God's. Could we "flesh this out" in our lives as it relates to the personal transforming Word of God?

Quit maneuvering and manipulating. Anyone ever try to make you look bad? Follow

Jeremiah. Walk away. Most folks try to make us look bad by making themselves look good. You can never win on those grounds. As you walk away from the confusion and misunderstandings, be sure and pray a sincere blessing on them. Finally.

Look at the consequences. (vv. 15-17) How did all this work out? Some would like to skip over this, but Hananiah and his influence were removed from the face of the earth. Sound harsh? Yes, but he had made the people trust a lie. He led them away from God. Could we pray, "Father, may my influence, conscious and unconscious, always lead others toward your love and never away from your presence. May I never trust lies others tell me about you or about your children. Forgive those whose words try to make me or others look bad. Amen. So be it...Yes!"

Buckley is a member of Petal Harvey Church, Petal.

## Guidelines for submitting news and photographs

The Baptist Record is pleased to publish news and photographs of special events that take place in cooperating churches of the Mississippi Baptist Convention.

News submitted for publication in The Baptist Record must be either (a) typewritten, (b) neatly printed on 8 1/2 by 11-inch paper, or (c) neatly printed on standardized forms provided by the newspaper. All articles must be received in writing; no articles will be accepted over the telephone.

News may be submitted electronically to the address below, and must be contained in the message segment of an e-mail form. Due to increasing virus threats, no text attachments will be accepted. Photograph attachments are permissible.

Please make articles concise. Include the **who, what, when, where** details of the story, along with a contact person's address and telephone number.

Photographs may be color or black and white. Instant photos and digital printouts

are not reproducible. Digital photos may be used if submitted as a JPEG file via either (a) e-mail, (b) three-and-a-half inch floppy disk, or (c) CD. Photos must be clear, sharp, and well-lighted.

All news items are subject to editing,

and all photographs are subject to cropping. Photographs must depict people. No landscape-, building-, or object-only photographs will be printed. News items and/or photographs can be published one time only. Deadline for submitting news is one week prior to requested publication date.

Articles that are not date-sensitive will be published on a space-available basis. Requests to return photographs must be accompanied by a self-addressed, stamped envelope.

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THE BAPTIST  
**Record**



# BSUers dedicate spring break to missions

STARKVILLE, Miss. (Special) — A total of forty-nine students and leaders from the Mississippi State University (MSU) Baptist Student Union (BSU) in Starkville returned recently from three spring break mission projects.

## Guadalajara, Mexico

Nine BSUers went to Guadalajara, Mexico, to participate in Operation Go Mexico, a project sponsored by the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board (MBCB) Missions Mobilization

Department and the Southern Baptist Convention's International Mission Board (IMB).

"Go Mexico was definitely a life-changing experience and one that I will never forget," said BSUer Ben Terry.

Mexico is a strategic country for IMB for the next six years, and the objective of Operation Go is to put the Gospel of John in every home in Mexico. BSU Associate Director June Scoggins stated that in conjunction with members from Iglesia Bautista de Mesitas, the MSU

students went door to door handing out 5,000 copies of the Gospel of John and other evangelistic tracts. Contacts were made and bridges of communication were built for the church to minister in this 166 block area. Fifty-two homes requested a visit from the pastor and four homes requested Bible studies.

BSUer Jake Donald commented, "My eyes were opened to the number of people in Guadalajara that were lost. God just showed me how important it is to serve Him through missions so that people can come to know the power of Christ and His love. It's so awesome to see God use ordinary people like us to do extraordinary things through Christ!"

## New York City

Thirty-two BSUers traveled to New York city and ministered with the Park Slope Community Baptist Church in Brooklyn. BSUer Kristin Clemmer said, "We went trying to make a difference in other peoples lives, but I think the biggest changes were made in our own lives."

BSU intern Bain Nickels commented, "The students were involved in various ministry activities throughout the week including prayer walking, cleaning, painting, construction in the church building, playing in the park with area kids, and hosting a Friday night cook-out for the community. It was a meaningful time of sharing Christ with non-believers and encouraging the believers throughout the Park Slope Community."

BSUer J.R. Love stated, "God really opened the hearts and eyes of our students through the Park Slope Community Church. We definitely experienced God working through us to impact others." BSUer Amy Rawson summed up the week by saying, "I was reminded of how personal our God is. Whether it is by praying, playing basketball, cleaning, playing with the kids, cooking, or fixing up the bathroom, He placed us where He could use the gifts He has blessed us with as the body of Christ."

## Panama City, Fla.

Eight MSU BSUers participated in Panama City (Fla.) BeachReach 2005, a project aimed at university students and spring breakers, sponsored by Lifeway Christian Resources of the Southern Baptist Convention. BSUers were involved in ministry through free van rides, a daily free pancake breakfast, prayer ministry, and one-on-one witnessing through street ministry.

Jana Hodges commented, "This verse was shared on the trip and I think it signifies everything Beach Reach is about: 'Devote yourselves to prayer, being watchful and thankful. And pray for us, too, that God may open a door for our message, so that we may proclaim

the mystery of Christ, for which I am in chains. Pray that I may proclaim it clearly as I should. Be wise in the way you act toward outsiders; make the most of every opportunity. Let your conversation be always full of grace, seasoned with salt, so that you may know how to answer everyone. (Colossians 4:2-6) God used BeachReach to show me that witnessing is not just giving people a step by step approach to the Gospel. It is sharing the incredible love that Christ has given me with other people and taking advantage of the opportunities that God gives us with everyone we know. We can not save people. Only God can save a soul, but we can share his love and His Word with all we know."

Lindsey Brent remarked, "At Panama City Beach, I became so aware of the power of prayer and how big our God is! As individuals we were attacked physically, spiritually, and emotionally, but God faithfully provided us with strength, His guiding Spirit, and love for people."

During the week of BeachReach, over thirty individuals came to know Christ as Savior.

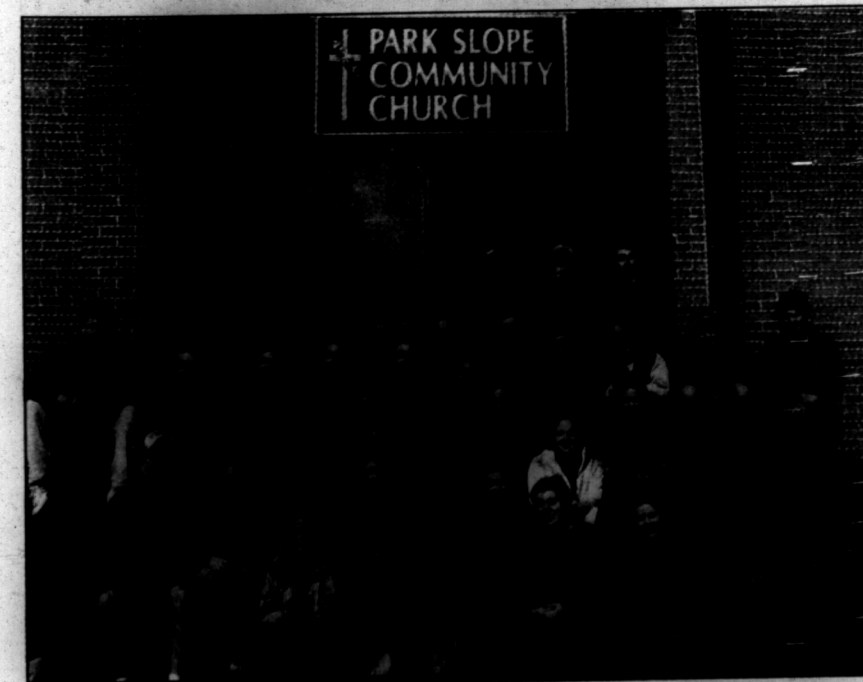
*The MSU BSU would like to thank the many individuals, alumni, the MBCB Missions Mobilization Department, and the churches that gave financially so that the students could be involved in missions.*



Guadalajara mission team



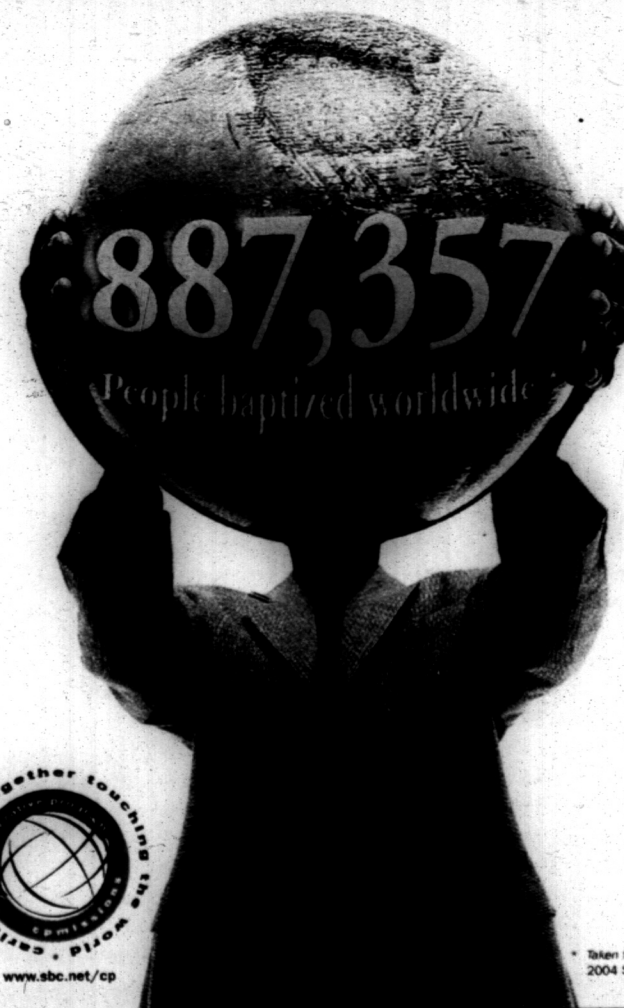
New York City mission team



BeachReach mission team

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\* Taken from the 2004 SBC Book of Reports



# Delta church posts big missions numbers

By Joe Young, pastor  
Calvary Chapel, Parchman

Each time they go, there are stories to tell. Calvary Chapel, a Mississippi Baptist church serving the employees of the Mississippi State Penitentiary at Parchman in the Delta, is preparing for its thirteenth annual trip to Mexico, and as of now 790 people have made the trip and worked a week in Mexico. In 2004, there were 156 people who went at their own expense to serve others in a poor land in Christ's name.

Most of the people who make the trip are not Calvary Chapel members. Calvary Chapel organizes the work, makes all the arrangements, and provides leadership, but the non-profit trip is mostly staffed with volunteers from small churches across the state. Sometimes there are large churches that want to be mentored by Calvary Chapel. Last year, First Church, Senatobia, sent 70 people to learn how to do future trips for themselves. Many others have learned on Calvary trips and now have their own annual trips.

People actually learn on the mission field that they have skills they could use to benefit others, and they return with changed lives. A doctor from Carthage made the trip only once, but he returned to start a free clinic that opens on Sunday afternoons to treat the working poor who have no insurance. Pharmacies provide medications at low costs. Doctors and dentists from Greenwood and Batesville have done the same in the Delta town of Sunflower.

A group of men from Drew returned from building houses

in Mexico to build a house for a poor widow who had some funds but not enough to pay for labor to replace her old mobile home. People who thought they were too busy to teach Vacation Bible School returned to become regular workers in their churches.

Last year's group had many small teams that did such diverse things as construction of a house and church; sports camps to teach kids how to play baseball and hear the Good News of Christ; medical and eye clinics where each of 1,013 patients heard the message of Christ as well as received treatment; 15 Vacation Bible Schools that reached 1,064 children; and a visitation team that shared Christ on the streets and door-to-door. Puppet teams using audio tapes in Spanish also shared the story of Christ on the streets.

Over the years, these workers have helped 882 people in Mexico come to accept Christ. A total of 178 of those professions were in 2004.

Mexico is a growing country. The capital, Mexico City, with 30 million people, is the largest city in the world. The area along the U.S. border where the Calvary Chapel teams work is growing at a rate of three million people per year. Fields and sanitary landfills are now covered over with cities of 30,000 people where there has never been a church of any denomination. Though Mexico is officially Roman Catholic, the shortage of priests due to the



**SERVING CHRIST** — Members of the 2004 Calvary Chapel mission team to Mexico pose for a group photo at their hotel in Mexico. Members of First Church, Senatobia, who went on the mission trip under the mentorship of Calvary Chapel, are included in the photo. (BR special photo)

requirement to remain unmarried has limited the church's ability to care for people. Millions now have no religion, but these lay volunteers are very effective in sharing their faith through interpreters and new churches are being started.

Some trip participants have sensed that God is calling them to career missions, and today they serve in such places as Mexico, Tanzania, Moldova, Uganda, and Ukraine.

Calvary Chapel is also a leader in organizing new congregations in Mississippi to reach the influx of immigrants. About half the new congregations that Calvary Chapel has led in beginning are in Hispanic communities in places like Batesville, Sunflower, Cleve-

land, and Leland. A number of other Hispanic works in north Mississippi trace their beginnings to a Calvary Chapel mission trip or relationship with one of the church's ministries. Often the people who get the burden or vision to start a new work got that desire while on a mission trip to Mexico.

The experience of Calvary Chapel, which has only 65 members, shows that any church of any size can be effective in outreach and ministry if they are willing to work with others and use their individual talents in a team effort.

For more information on the Calvary Chapel missions experience, contact the church at 105 N. Marshall Street, Charleston, MS 38921. E-mail: brojoe@ayrix.net.

## MS POSITIONS

**PART-TIME YOUTH/CHILDREN'S MINISTER:** Antioch Baptist Church, Brandon, Mississippi. Seeking a part-time youth and children's minister. Please send resumes and references to Antioch Baptist Church, 2350 Hwy 43 S., attn: youth/children's search committee, Brandon, MS 39042.

**FLAT TOP UNITY BAPTIST CHURCH** is seeking God's will as we search for a bi-vocational pastor. If interested, please send resume to pastor search committee, 23464 Indian Ridge Road, Picayune, MS 39466.

**MINISTER OF EDUCATION/SENIOR ADULTS NEEDED.** Send resume to First Baptist Church of Poplarville, c/o minister of education search committee, P.O. Box 191, Poplarville, MS 39470. Or email fbcpopminsearch@bellsouth.net no later than May 6, 2005.

## CLASSIFIED ADS

**FINALLY AFFORDABLE HEALTH INSURANCE** for the self employed. Call (800) 541-8196. Provided by Mega Insurance, [www.christurner-ins.com](http://www.christurner-ins.com).

**AFFORDABLE BEACHSIDE VACATION CONDOS**, [www.gulfshorescondos.com](http://www.gulfshorescondos.com). All size units available. Spring special, 2 night weekend, \$160, 4 week nights \$250. Efficiency unit (2 adults 2 kids). Good thru 5/25, (205) 556-0368 or (205) 554-1524.

**NORRIS BOOKBINDING COMPANY, INC.**, old Bibles rebound. Also, church bulletins and hymnals. For more information call (662) 453-7424 or fax us at (662) 455-6743.

**WANTED: CHURCH TO PURCHASE A 20-25 PASSENGER BUS.** Looking for a newer model with low miles, good physical and mechanical shape. Call (662) 983-2216 from 9:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m., Monday-Thursday.

**STAINED GLASSWORKS, INC.**, serving MS & AL since 1992. Call (800) 605-2970.

**SEBREN'S SIDING, JACKSON, CHRISTIAN OWNED.** All home improvements, vinyl siding, windows, metal and shingle roofs, patio covers, screen and glass rooms. (601) 992-2092, Don & Rita Sebren, owners.

**HEIDELBERG STAINED GLASS**, Meridian. Design, fabrication, repair. Fax illustrations to (601) 483-7958 or call (800) 368-2705.

**GATLINBURG GETAWAY:** 2 BR/2 bath, full kitchen. Walking distance to parkway, \$65/night. Call for information at (251) 666-2175, cell phone (251) 689-9982 or [pdw@worldnet.att.net](mailto:pdw@worldnet.att.net).

**HEALTH INSURANCE TOO EXPENSIVE?** Call toll-free today (877) 232-0686. We can Help! Major Medical Hospital & surgical plan. Life, medicare supplement, low rates.

**MEDICARE SUPPLEMENT:** plan "F" or "G", new lower rates! E.F. Hutton Insurance, toll-free 877-232-0686.

**FULL-TIME WORSHIP PASTOR** needed. Send resumes to First Baptist Church, attn: Dan Glenn, 100 N. Hickory St., Vidalia, LA 71373. Or email [worship@fbcvidalia.com](mailto:worship@fbcvidalia.com).

**LIVING FAITH MINISTRIES**, an evangelist ministry specializing in revivals, fill in service, interim and youth. We are committed to bringing a fresh word from God that will change our lives. We believe that God has given us a word in due season for the body of Christ. Evangelist Steve Smith, contact at (601) 672-1862 or (601) 346-4476, [www.stevesmithministriesinc.org](http://www.stevesmithministriesinc.org).

**NASHVILLE SBC CONVENTION:** downtown and west end hotel packages. Special rate, Comfort Inn, \$99 night, including taxes and shuttle. Opry packages, Christian Travelers, (800) 972-8952, [www.christiantravelers.com](http://www.christiantravelers.com).

**SALE STREET BAPTIST CHURCH** is seeking a full-time minister of music/worship. Send resume, cover letter and demo/sampling of worship leading to music search committee, P.O. Box 5215, Lake Charles, LA 70606. Job requirements at [www.salestreet.org](http://www.salestreet.org).

**SALE STREET BAPTIST CHURCH** is searching for a full-time student minister to focus on youth grades 6-12 and college students. Send resume to youth minister search committee, P.O. Box 5215, Lake Charles, LA 70606.

**CHRISTIAN LONG DISTANCE**, 3.9 cents interstate, 4.9 cents in state. No monthly service charge. Call (866) 587-8346 or [www.lowermy-phonebill.com/haroldtt](http://www.lowermy-phonebill.com/haroldtt).

**HOPPER GLASS STUDIO, CUSTOM** church windows, reworking and repair, Columbus/Jackson, (877) 477-1899.

**CHURCH PEW UPHOLSTERY**, free estimates. Davis Upholstery, Quitman, Miss., phone (601) 776-6617.

**A FULL-TIME MINISTER TO CHILDREN** is being sought by First Baptist Church, Hot Springs, Arkansas. This first-time position will be responsible for working with newborns through six graders. Send resumes to FBC, 2350 Central Avenue, Hot Springs, AR 71901 or [mckmom@cablelynx.com](mailto:mckmom@cablelynx.com).

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